



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
MARVIN SMILON, HERBERT HADAD
MEGAN GAFFNEY,
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 637-2600

**'DEADBEAT DAD' ARRESTED ON FEDERAL CHILD SUPPORT
CHARGES FILED NEARLY 10 YEARS AGO**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced the arrest Monday of JESSE HILSEN, nearly 10 years after he was first charged with evading approximately \$175,000 in support payments owed to his ex-wife and children.

According to a Complaint filed in 1995 in Manhattan federal court, in 1988, as part of a divorce decree, HILSEN was ordered by a New York State Court judge to pay \$750 per week in lifetime spousal support as well as \$200 per week in child support for two of his three children.

HILSEN, a licensed psychiatrist, also worked from 1988 through 1994 as the manager for a prominent rock band, from which he received between \$230,000 and \$500,000 per year in compensation, according to the Complaint. Despite that income, according to the Complaint, HILSEN repeatedly failed to comply with his court-ordered support obligations and attempted to use various tactics to defeat and delay payment.

Specifically, according to the Complaint, in 1987, just before the divorce decree, HILSEN filed a bankruptcy petition in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. In October 1990, a federal judge concluded that HILSEN had attempted to "[use] the bankruptcy process to avoid state court actions and to defraud his wife of her share of the parties' marital property." Also, according to the Complaint, in March 1994, a letter to a Family Court hearing examiner indicated that HILSEN refused to participate in the hearings conducted by the Family Court hearing examiners and failed to appear further in the Family Court proceedings. In June 1994, a contempt order was filed in the Family Court of New York against HILSEN for his repeated failure to pay over \$170,000 in support payments to his ex-wife. Following the filing of the contempt order, a state arrest warrant was issued and HILSEN fled the jurisdiction.

In 2003, a federal grand jury in Manhattan handed down an Indictment charging HILSEN with violating a federal law against evading court-ordered child support obligations.

HILSEN was arrested on the evening of June 19, 2004, by local authorities in Ulster County, New York. He was arraigned before United States Magistrate Judge LISA M. SMITH in White Plains federal court on June 21, 2004, and ordered held without bail.

According to statements made during HILSEN's

arraignment before Magistrate SMITH, from the date of the 1994 Family Court contempt order through the date of his surrender, HILSEN had been sighted in several cities throughout the United States and in the Netherlands, Israel and South Africa. In addition, according to statements in court, in recent job applications in the United States, HILSEN had claimed Israeli citizenship and residency in Germany.

If convicted, HILSEN faces a maximum sentence of 2 years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and 1 year of supervised release on the charges in the federal indictment.

Assistant United States Attorney MIRIAM H. BAER is in charge of this prosecution.

The charges in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.